

RISA

FY 2003 Information Sheet

The RISA program supports integrated research and assessments at the "regional scale" that account for the institutional and social management objectives, processes and constraint sets decision-makers work within including; climate, environmental, and socio-economic characteristics and trends, and geophysical and jurisdictional boundaries. Critical climate-sensitive issues in this context are assessed iteratively in a manner that integrates interdisciplinary knowledge and experience about risks and vulnerabilities in a region commensurate with the design and support of effective responses. The Integrated Sciences component informs the assessment function by focusing ongoing research on (1) linkages between critical components of physical systems (e.g. climate-fisheries interactions), (2) linkages between social and economic activities (e.g. climate and energy production) and relevant variations and changes in these systems, and (3) linkages between this integrated knowledge, and decision processes.

In FY2003, proposals are invited to address research questions that innovatively demonstrate the proposed team has the capacity to integrate physical and social science research around two or three tractable issues of importance to decision makers in the specified region. A successful research team must have as leaders scientists who have proven to be successful in their own field of research. They must be sufficiently flexible and creative enough to combine their expertise with researchers of other disciplines and decision makers to produce genuinely integrated research applicable to end users' needs. It is important that the proposal illustrates that the research:

- 1) The research will achieve the strategic goals of the nationwide program. Those goals are:
 - Assess and articulate climate sensitive policy issues and processes at a regional problem focus;
 - Contribute to the development of the "next generation" of climate sensitive integrated knowledge and research methodologies
 - Enhance structured feedback to refine scientific research agendas, and enhance institutional capacity;
 - Increase the portfolio of options available to decision makers, in part, by increasing the role of science in climate sensitive management processes and, providing the scientific foundations for the development of climate information systems.
- 2) Can be completed successfully;
- 3) will not substantially duplicate other projects currently funded by NOAA or other federal agencies, and

- 4) demonstrates the proposed team has the capacity to integrate the physical and social science research around two or three tractable issues of importance to decision makers in the specified region.